



WFP Libya Country Brief August 2019

Operational Context

Efforts to reach a peaceful conclusion to the conflict in Libya continue amidst persisting political instability and a volatile security situation. Unrest since 2011 has caused the economic and humanitarian situation in the country to deteriorate significantly. Ongoing violence between multiple factions further aggravates an unstable environment, with ongoing political rivalries and violent struggles within the country.

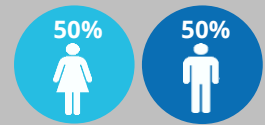
WFP resumed operations in Libya in September 2014. WFP's General Food Assistance (GFA) is comprised of in-kind food assistance provision. Each family receives two food parcels, enough to support five people for one month. The parcels consist of rice, pasta, wheat flour, white beans, vegetable oil, sugar and tomato paste. In 2019, WFP plans to reach 147,000 people in need every month. WFP is increasingly engaging across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus to support the review and rehabilitation of pre-crisis social protection systems. This will be crucial in a post-conflict scenario to ensure social cohesion.

WFP co-leads the Food Security Sector in Libya, as well as leading the Logistics Sector, the Emergency Telecommunications Sector, and managing the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) and the UN Hub in Benghazi.



Population: 6.6 million Libyans + 0.67m migrants/refugees (estimated)

In Numbers



54,510 people assisted
in August 2019 (estimate)

601 MT of food assistance distributed so far in
August 2019

US\$ 7.8 m six months (October 2019 – March 2020)
net funding requirements

Operational Updates

- In August 2019, WFP reached about 54,500 people in need through its regular food distributions in Libya.
- WFP has taken a lead role in the emergency response of the current Tripoli and Murzuq crises, both on an agency level and as leader of several sectors. WFP leads the Food Security Sector, the Logistics Sector and the Emergency Telecommunications Sector as well as manages the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) for Libya. Through the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM), and in coordination with IOM, UNICEF and UNFPA, WFP is providing emergency food assistance to displaced families in and around Tripoli and Murzuq. By early September, through the RRM WFP has reached almost 25,000 people recently displaced because of the clashes, while having prepositioned its two-week dry rations for 500 migrants at the UNHCR-managed Gathering and Departure Facility in Tripoli.
- WFP has provided training for future school feeding focal points in 59 schools and is working in tandem with the Libyan Ministry of Education to develop a national school feeding strategy as well as continue capacity building efforts. At the end of August, WFP provided a school feeding training of trainers (TOT) for 60 Libyan Ministry of Education officials to learn crucial skills on basic nutrition concepts, especially for school-age children and adolescents, and on how to support basic nutrition screening in schools.
- As chair of the UN Programme Management Team (PMT), WFP in Libya coordinates humanitarian and development actors towards collective thinking and programme design and implementation. The operation is part of a project on social cohesion, stabilisation and rehabilitation in Sirte supported by the UN Peacebuilding Fund. This joint project between WFP, UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF will offer young men and women opportunities to meet in a youth-friendly safe space in Sirte where they can participate in a range of activities that will allow them to connect with peers and collaborate in developing youth-led projects and social initiatives/enterprises that aim to contribute to the well-being of youth and their participation and engagement in local peacebuilding processes.

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
64.4 m	19.8 m
2019 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (October 2019 – March 2020)
32.2 m	7.8 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis-affected vulnerable populations in Libya, including schoolchildren, have access to sufficient and nutritious food during and in the aftermath of crises

Focus area: *Crisis Response*

Activities:

- Provide assistance to food-insecure and vulnerable people in Libya, including schoolchildren, and pilot complementary interventions that improve food security and nutrition

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable populations across Libya have strengthened livelihoods and restored access to basic services all year.

Focus area: *Resilience Building*

Activities:

- Provide skills strengthening to vulnerable communities and enhance national and local safety nets

Strategic Outcome 3: The humanitarian community in Libya has strengthened capacity to assist vulnerable populations during and in the aftermath of crises.

Focus area: *Crisis Response*

Activities:

- Provide logistics sector services to humanitarian partners in Libya
- Provide air services for personnel and light cargo (United Nations Humanitarian Air Service - UNHAS)
- Provide common ICT to humanitarian partners in Libya

- Also as head of the PMT, WFP coordinated the Programme Criticality Exercise (PCE) which worked with other agencies to agree on outputs and strategic results for the UN in Libya. Endorsement for these priorities was received in August. The last PCE was endorsed in 2016 when the evacuation status was still active, and the update is very much a step forward for the priorities of the humanitarian response inside the country.

Challenges

- On 10 August, a car bomb exploded outside of a market in the eastern city of Benghazi, [killing civilians as well as United Nations staff members](#). This attack restricted access in the Benghazi area and has caused concern for humanitarian presence in this part of the country. Despite this, the operation continues to provide humanitarian support and has ensured the UN Hub in Benghazi remains fully operational.
- Food insecurity remains a challenge due to protracted displacement, disruption to markets, and dwindling food production. Livelihoods and access to basic social services have been affected by the conflict, exposing the most vulnerable people to inadequate food consumption and forcing people

into negative coping strategies, such as spending savings, cutting the number of daily meals, and reducing non-food related expenses, particularly in health and education.

Monitoring

- WFP monitors its activities through a Libyan Third-party Monitor (TPM). In August, WFP and its TPM partner conducted 31 on-site monitoring visits in six governorates to monitor food distributions across the Western region of the country.
- During the month of August, and through the RRM, three days of distributions took place in the Southern and Eastern regions of the country in response to the Murzuq crisis. Both WFP and TPM partners conducted monitoring activities in all sites.

Core Common Services

- The Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS) has launched the Common Feedback Mechanism (CFM), a common hotline and information package for conflict-affected populations.
- The UN Hub in Benghazi is fully operative. The Hub enables all UN agencies to operate in the east of the country.
- The Logistics Sector continues to provide sector-wide updates on relevant issues in Libya as they unfold.
- UNHAS is a critical service which continues to connect the country, ensuring safe, reliable air access for the humanitarian and development community in Libya. The operation is currently seeking further funding in order to continue flights beyond September of this year.

The Way Forward

- The operation is committed not just to the current emergency response but also to continuing the initiatives and commitments planned in its recently approved Interim Country Strategic Plan 2019-2020 (ICSP), which works across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus to support the review and rehabilitation of pre-crisis social protection systems. The ICSP helps WFP and its partners to work with the Libyan people to achieve zero hunger by 2030, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Interventions include school feeding; cash-based transfers linked to social safety net programmes and government-led subsidy programmes, as well as food-for-training for resilience-building and the empowerment of youth and women.

Donors

[Canada](#), [CERF](#), [Germany](#), [Italy](#), [Japan](#), [Luxembourg](#), [Netherlands](#), [Norway](#).